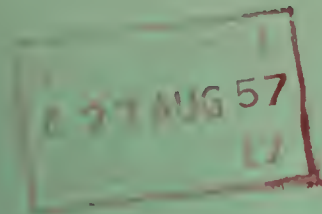


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The Rural District Council of New Forest.



ANNUAL REPORT

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions

of the

NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1956



Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

GEORGE HABGOOD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

to the

NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the New Forest Rural District Council:-

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health, Social and Sanitary conditions of your District during the year 1956.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in acres)	94,957.
Estimated mid-year Resident Population	48,130.
Estimated number of inhabited houses	14,608.
Rateable Value 1st April, 1957	£811,049.
Sum represented by a penny rate (for the financial year ended 31st March, 1957)	£3,389.8.7 $\frac{1}{4}$.

The population, as estimated by the Registrar General, shows an increase of 1,290 over 1955.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

The District covers an area of 94,957 acres, approximately 148 square miles, comprising 17 parishes and has a progressively rising population, which has now reached 48,130 - an increase of 8% since the end of 1950 and 22% since the end of 1945.

It is bounded on the East by the River Test and the Southampton Water, on the South by the Solent and the Lymington Borough, on the West by the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council and on the North by the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council. The unique and predominating feature of the District is, of course, the ancient Crown Forest, a region of exceptional natural beauty and a home of ancient rights and privileges. The area within the perambulation of the Forest is some 92,000 acres, of which the larger portion lies within the boundaries of the Rural District. The principal industries in the Forest are, naturally, forestry and agriculture, whilst the areas outside the perambulation of the Forest, the waterside parts of the parishes of

Eling, Marchwood, Dibden and Fawley are mainly industrial, including timberworks, small shipbuilding yards, tar distilleries, the well-known Esso Oil Refinery, and other light industries.

In these parishes industrial development is progressively increasing and they contain the larger centres of population, equivalent to approximately 60% of the total population of the District.

The geological formation of the District is mainly made up of plateau gravel and sandy marly clays.

Rainfall, Sun hours, and Temperatures (as recorded at Southampton).

Month.	Rain.	Sun	Temperatures.	
			Maximum.	Minimum.
January.	4.855	70.31	56	21
February.	.10 ✕	109.24	53	12
March.	.65	158.87	61.5	24.5
April.	1.97	178.21	65	29
May.	.215	274.85	75	33.5
June.	2.09	169.29	75	41
July.	2.125	190.62	81	50
August.	3.21	192.27	74	42.5
September.	4.045	125.71	72.5	43
October.	2.19	123.49	63	32.5
November.	.79	99.97	57	25
December.	5.29 ✕	27.25	56	26.5

Total Rainfall = 27.53 inches. ✕ = Also snow.

EXTRACTS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births:</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	441	395	836
Illegitimate	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u>455</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>863</u>

<u>Birth Rate:</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1956.</u>
Per 1,000 of the estimated resident population..	16.4	17.6
Birth Rate for England and Wales	15.0	15.7
After application of Comparability Factor(1.08).	17.7	19.0

<u>Still Births:</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	7	8	15
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>17</u>

<u>Deaths:</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	252	247	499
		<u>1955.</u>	<u>1956.</u>
Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	10.1		10.3
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7		11.7
After application of Comparability Factor (.89)...	9.9		10.1

The death rate comparability figure has, for the first time, been adjusted specifically to take account of any residential institutions in the area.

<u>Infant Mortality:</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:</u>			
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:</u>		<u>1955.</u>	<u>1956.</u>
All Infants per 1,000 live births		18.2	15.0
Rate for England and Wales		24.9	23.8
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births		18.8	13.1
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births		-	74.0

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>
		<u>1955.</u>	<u>1956.</u>
Rate per 1,000 related live births		14.3	10.3
Rate for England and Wales		17.3	16.9

Maternal Mortality:

Death Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths...	Nil.
Death Rate for England and Wales	0.56

Increase of Population:

The estimated population as given by the Registrar General shows an increase of 1,290. The births registered exceeded the deaths by 364 - representing, therefore, an immigrant increase of 926. The corresponding increase for the preceding year was 585.

The Chief Causes of Death in order of frequency were:-			1956.	1955.
(a)	Disease of the heart and circulatory system	.....	222-44%	188 -41%
(b)	Cancer of all sites	.....	66-13%	84-18%
(c)	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	.....	66-13%	66-14%
(d)	Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	46-9%	31-6%
(e)	Tuberculosis (all forms)	.....	2-.4%	4-.8%

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

Year.	Population.	New Forest R.D.C.			England & Wales.		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1950	44,200	21.11	15.99	10.92	30.0	15.8	11.6
1951	44,900	25.86	18.08	10.91	29.6	15.5	12.5
1952	45,090	29.83	17.09	9.39	27.6	15.3	11.3
1953	45,480	40.20	17.47	10.92	26.8	15.5	11.4
1954	45,960	13.4	17.74	9.55	25.5	15.2	11.3
1955	46,840	18.2	16.4	10.1	24.9	15.0	11.7
1956	48,130	15.0	17.6	10.3	23.8	15.7	11.7

IMR = Infant Mortality Rate expressed as per 1,000 live births.
BR = Birth Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.
DR = Death Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

- 1 Medical Officer of Health (part time).
- 1 Chief Public Health Inspector.
- 1 Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.
- 4 Additional Public Health Inspectors.

The fourth additional Public Health Inspector was appointed on 1st October. Two Inspectors are engaged on specialist duties for the purposes of the Housing Acts and the Food and Drugs Acts.

A moiety of the salaries of all Officers is received under the Public Health Acts and the Public Health Inspectors devote the whole of their time to their duties.

Laboratory Facilities:

For chemical examinations at the Southampton Corporation Laboratory and bacteriological examinations at the Public Health Laboratories, Winchester and Southampton. A fee is charged by the Southampton Corporation. The Public Health Laboratories Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health and no fees charged.

Ambulance Facilities:

The ambulances operating in the area are controlled from the County Council's main station at "Hillcroft", New Street, Lymington, telephone No. Lymington 2331, and all requests for transport should be made to the Officer in charge of that Station.

The work in the area is shared between the main Station at Lymington and the sub-stations at Totton and Fawley, with assistance from the adjoining sub-stations at Ringwood, Christchurch, New Milton and Romsey. All types of cases are conveyed, with the exception of smallpox cases, for which special arrangements are made.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery:-

Details of the General Nurses and Midwives serving in the District who are able to give attention to cases at home on a Medical Certificate are:-

BOLDRE DISTRICT	Miss M.H. Mitchell, Farthings, Boldre. Tel. Lymington 3564.
BROCKENHURST DISTRICT	Miss F.D. Shiers, Nurse's Cottage, Meerut Rd. Brockenhurst. Tel. 2380.
DIBDEN, MARCHWOOD & HYTHE ...	Miss R. Wess, Three Firs, Atheling Road, Hythe. Tel. Hythe 2230. Mrs. G.P. Sysum, 5 Langdown Road, Hythe. Tel. Hythe 2215.
EAST BOLDRE & BEAULIEU	Miss K. Mann, Memorial Cottage, Beaulieu. Tel. Beaulieu 212.
FAWLEY DISTRICT	Mrs. D. Clarebout, 29 Heather Road, Fawley. Tel. Blackfield 3312.
LYNDHURST DISTRICT	Miss D. Emery, 1 Church Cottages, Emery Down, Lyndhurst. Tel. Lyndhurst 250.
NETLEY MARSH DISTRICT	Miss H.M. Davies, 1 Regis Cottage, Bartley. Tel. Cadnam 3220.
BRAMSHAW DISTRICT	Miss J. Stubbs, Dell Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Cadnam. Tel. Cadnam 3247.
SWAY DISTRICT	Mrs. M.F. Lipscombe The Bungalow, Station Rd. Sway. Tel. Sway 314.
TOTTON DISTRICT	<u>District Nurse/Midwife</u> - Miss E. Strange 28 Shelley Road, Totton. Tel. Totton 2191. <u>District Nurse/Midwife</u> - Mrs. A. Billingsley 22, Players Crescent, Totton. Tel. 3256. <u>General Nurse</u> - Mrs. M.M. Coombes, 36 Shakespeare Drive, Totton. Tel. Totton 3000.

Home Help Service:

The object of the Home Help Service is to relieve anxiety by providing someone to help with the housework and care of children (if any) while the housewife is prevented from working by sickness or accident, or during confinement, or for any other persons aged and sick, requiring help.

There is an office serving the New Forest area at the Health Centre, Rumbridge Street, Totton (Tel. Totton 3250). This office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Applications, which must be supported by a Doctor's Certificate, may also be sent to Miss M.P. Stevens, Divisional Organiser, Druitt Buildings, High Street, Christchurch (Tel. Christchurch 900).

Clinics and Treatment Centres:

(a) Speech Clinics (by appointment):

CHRISTCHURCH Health Clinic, Millhams Street. Wednesday a.m.,
Thursday a.m. and p.m., and Friday a.m.
LYMINGTON Health Clinic, New Street. Monday a.m. and p.m.
RINGWOOD Dental Premises, 18-20 Market Place.
Fridays p.m.
SOUTHAMPTON 18 Archers Road. Wednesdays a.m. & p.m.
TOTTON Health Clinic, Rumbridge Street. Tues. a.m. & p.m.

(b) Child Welfare Centres:

BLACKFIELD, Baptist Church Hall 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Mondays.
(Doctor not in attendance 2nd and 4th Mondays).
BOLDRE, Memorial Hall, Pilley 2nd Thursdays.
BROCKENHURST, New Forest Hall 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.
CALSHOT, R.A.F. Station 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. (Health Visitor attends - no Doctor).
COPYTHORNE, Foresters Hall, Bartley ... 1st & 3rd Thursdays. (Doctor not in attendance 1st Thursdays)
DIBDEN PURLIEU, Women's Inst. Hall 2nd Tuesdays.
EAST BOLDRE, The Parish Hall 1st Thursdays.
EXBURY, Women's Institute Hall 2nd Thursdays.

(b) Child Welfare Centres (continued).

HYTHE, St. John's Hall 4th Tuesdays. N.B. Changed to 2nd & 4th Wednesdays as from 12:9:56. (Doctor not in attendance on 2nd Wednesdays)

LYNDHURST, Lyndhurst Social Centre, Sandy Lane 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. (Doctor not in attendance 3rd Wednesdays)

MARCHWOOD, The Church Room 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. (Doctor not in attendance 3rd Tuesdays)

SWAY, Women's Institute Hall 2nd Tuesdays.

TESTWOOD, Thistle Hall, St. Winfred's Church, Salisbury Rd.... Every Monday. (Doctor attends on 4th Monday only).

TOTTON, Health Clinic Fridays at 2pm. (and at 10am. 1st Friday only).

All Centres commence at 2pm. except where otherwise stated.

(c) Day Nurseries: NIL.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

(i) Dental Clinics: (For School and pre-School children and expectant and nursing mothers).

Held at various Schools and Centres as required. Requests for special appointments should be sent to the Principal School Medical Officer.

(ii) Minor Ailments: (For School and pre-School children)

TOTTON Health Clinic, Rumbridge Street.
1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 9.30am.
(except during School Summer Holidays).

LYMINGTON Health Clinic, New Street.
Every Tuesday at 9.30am.
(except during School Summer Holidays).

Children attend these Clinics without appointments.

(iii) Ophthalmic: (For School and pre-School children).

Held at Christchurch, Totton and Lymington. Attendance only by appointment from the Principal School Medical Officer.

(iv) Orthopaedic Clinics:

SOUTHAMPTON - (Royal South Hants Hospital, Fanshawe Street).

Surgeon's and Remedial Clinic by appointment. Cases from the New Forest

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER:

88.7% of the houses in the District have a Mains supply of water in the house. There is a decrease of 0.9% by reason of the abolition of temporary camps and Slum Clearance.

The District is supplied with water by two Statutory Undertakings, the Southampton Corporation, and the West Hampshire Water Company, the District Council (water being purchased in bulk from the two Statutory Undertakings) and two private Estates. The Waterworks of both Undertakings are situated outside the District. The water supplied by the Southampton Corporation is obtained from deep wells in the chalk at Timsbury, Twyford and Otterbourne, the water being softened by means of the "Lime Process" and sterilised by "Chloramination".

The water supplied by the West Hampshire Water Company comes from the River Avon at Christchurch, where it is treated by rapid and slow sand filtration, followed by "Chloramination".

In parts of the District outside the limits of supply of the Statutory Undertakings, i.e., Emery Down and the Parishes of Bramshaw and Minstead, the District Council have provided mains, water being purchased in bulk from the beforementioned Undertakings.

In the Exbury Village, which lies outside the limits of supply of both Undertakings, a piped supply in the houses is provided by the Exbury Estate. The source of supply is from a deep well some 300ft. deep, the water being pumped to a water tower, thence by gravitation to the houses and Exbury School.

The Beaulieu Village also has a piped supply in the houses, provided by the Beaulieu Estate, and in addition, a supply is available from the mains of the West Hampshire Water Company. The estate supply is gravitational, from an ancient spring known as "The Monk's Well", situated at Hill Top, Beaulieu.

No waters in the District were found to have any plumbo solvent action and there were no known cases of plumbism. All the supplies have been constant throughout the year. The following table shows the state of water supplies in the various Parishes:-

PARTICULARS OF THE NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES AND THE
NUMBER SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS.

Parish.	No. of dwelling houses.	No. of dwelling houses connected to Mains.	Source of Supply.
Lyndhurst.	838	811	753 to Southampton Corporation Mains & 58 to N.F.R.D.C. Mains.
Brockenhurst.	792	774	Southampton Corporation Mains.
Copythorne.	830	661	646 Southampton Corporation Mains and 15 N.F.R.D.C. Mains.
Sway.	751	645	West Hampshire Water Company.
Fawley.	1664	1554	Southampton Corporation Mains.
East Boldre.	333	193	West Hampshire Water Company.
Dibden.	1578	1348	Southampton Corporation Mains.
Marchwood.	340	324	Southampton Corporation Mains.
Netley Marsh.	646	473	Southampton Corporation Mains.
Eling.	5075	4992	Southampton Corporation Mains.
Denny Lodge.	156	43	30 Southampton Corporation Mains & 13 West Hants Water Company.
Boldre.	749	521	West Hampshire Water Company.
Minstead.	331	223	New Forest R.D.C. Mains.
Rhinefield.	51	35	West Hampshire Water Company.
Beaulieu.	372	285 +	Partly West Hants Water Co. and partly Beaulieu Estate Supply.
Exbury.	102	84 ø	Partly N.F.R.D.C. Mains and partly Exbury Estate Supply.

+ Includes 99 connected to Beaulieu Estate Mains.

ø Includes 17 connected to N.F.R.D.C. Mains.

Total number of dwelling houses = 14,608. Connected to Mains = 12,966.

Estimated number of population provided with Main Supply 41,620.

Estimated % number of properties provided with Main Supply .. 88.7%.

EXTENSION OF MAINS AND OTHER WORKS INCIDENTAL TO WATER SUPPLIES.

Extension of Mains:

(i) Southampton Corporation:

Parish.	Length of mains laid in lineal yards.	Diameter of Mains (inches).
Eling.	928	4" and 3"
Netley Marsh.	87	4" and 3"
Dibden.	3,629	6", 4" and 3"
Fawley.	540	4" and 3"
Copythorne.	1,130	4"
Lyndhurst.	1,910	8"
Brockenhurst.	1,018	8"

Included in the extensions laid in the parishes of Netley Marsh, Eling, Copythorne and Dibden were 87, 478, 1,130 and 200 lineal yards respectively, laid under guarantee agreement with the Council under Sections 28 and 36 Water Act 1945, in which areas the existing supply from wells was found to be insufficient and unwholesome.

(ii) West Hampshire Water Company:

717 Lineal yards of 4" mains were laid in the Parish of Boldre.

(iii) New Forest Rural District Council: There were no extensions.

WATER ANALYSES.

(i) Southampton Corporation:

(a) Bacteriological Examination:

Water supplied is subject to regular bacteriological examination, samples being sent to the Ministry of Health Bacteriologist, Winchester and the Borough Analyst, Southampton. The following Table shows the results of the examinations during the year 1956:-

Origin of samples.	Total number of samples during year.	Number of samples showing the pro- -bable No. of B.coli present in 100ml		
		None present.	1 to 2 present.	3 to 10 present
Timsbury Wells.	77	77	-	-
Twyford Wells.	77	75	2 *	-
Otterbourne.	77	77	-	-
River Itchen.	77	76	1 *	-
TOTAL.	308	305	3	-

* No faecal organisms present in these samples.

(b) Chemical Analyses:

The following table shows the results of a typical chemical analysis of Treated Water from the sources of supply distributed in the New Forest Rural District:-

Samples taken in November 1956 - Results in parts per million.

General Chemical Examination.	Timsbury Wells	Twyford Wells	Otterbourne Wells.	River Itchen.
Total Solids	257	286	247	206
Free Carbon Dioxide, as CO ₂	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N	0.023 *	0.035 *	0.033 *	0.104 *
Albuminoid Nitrogen, as N	0.003	0.003	0.008	0.008
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N	Nil	0.001	Trace	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen, as N	2.3	3.0	3.5	2.75
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (Wanklyn's)				
Temporary	133	79	119	77
Permanent	53	67	53	51
Permanganate Figure as O (4 hours at 80°F)	0.05	0.03	Nil	0.163
Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃	165	120	155	110
Free Chlorine	Nil	0.18 *	0.27 *	0.27 *
Reaction, pH	(7.3)	(7.5)	(7.6)	(7.9)
<u>MINERAL ANALYSIS.</u>				
Calcium, as Ca	79	55	64	46.4
Magnesium, as Mg	1.9	1.9	2.9	4.3
Carbonate, as CO ₃	99	72	93	66
Chloride, as Cl	19	13	16	15
Sulphate, as SO ₄	16.7	6.1	12.8	14.89
Nitrate, as NO ₃	10.2	13.3	15.5	12.2
Iron	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Zinc	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Copper	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Phosphates	Trace	Absent	Absent	Absent

* These figures were obtained from samples which had already been treated by the addition of Chloramine.

(ii) West Hampshire Water Company:

The water supplied from the Christchurch Works is examined bacteriologically daily for presumptive B. Coli and during the year all samples were found to be negative. In addition, complete chemical analysis and bacteriological examinations are made twice weekly. All conformed with Classification I for Statutory Water Undertakings as prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

(iii) Other Supplies:

60 Samples were taken by the Department, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Southampton for bacteriological examination. The following Table gives details of the results:-

Source of supply.	Number of samples taken.	Number satisfactory.	Number unsatisfactory.
Private Estate piped supply	29	29	-
Individual well supplies	25	13	12
Main supplies	5	5	-
Other supplies	1	-	1

Formal and informal action under the Public Health Act 1936 and Water Act 1945, and voluntarily by owners, resulted in 32 dwelling houses having well supplies being provided with a Main supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

In the built up parts of the Parish of Dibden, i.e., Hythe and Dibden Purlieu, where Main sewerage facilities were provided during 1955, 530 properties had been connected up to the end of the year and the cesspits abolished.

Stage I of the Fawley Sewerage Scheme (Gravity Section) was proceeded with during 1956 and work included the laying of the main sewer lines in and around Fawley village and in Long Lane. The construction of the disposal works was almost complete by December 1956, but at that date had not been taken over by the Council.

Stage II of the Fawley Sewerage Scheme was commenced and work on the Pumping Section Contract began in April 1956, and a considerable amount of the pipe laying had been completed by December 1956, but as work on the pumping station had not been started, it was not possible to take over any of the sewers for use.

The details of the Netley Marsh and Copythorne Scheme were prepared during 1956 with a view to its presentation to the Council early in 1957. The scheme covers a high percentage of the total houses in the parishes and makes provision for Goldenhayes and Newbridge.

A Public Enquiry was held into the Sway Sewerage Scheme during 1956 and as a result the Minister, whilst approving the scheme in principle, did not confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order for the site of the sewage disposal works. This decision has the effect of delaying the scheme pending the selection of an alternative site and the carrying out of the necessary amendments in the design of the scheme.

The Gravity Section of the Hythe and Dibden Stage III(a) Scheme, covering Butts Ash, was approved by the Minister in May 1956 and work was due to commence on 1st January, 1957.

A comprehensive survey of the Lyndhurst Sowerage System was undertaken during 1956, with a view to reporting in detail on the system during 1957.

The Council's scheme for the modernisation of the disposal works at Brockenhurst was discussed with the Ministry on a technical level in February 1956, but owing to the pressure of work in hand, it has not yet been possible to proceed with revisions of the scheme.

An informal investigation into the Council's proposals to enlarge the disposal works at Eling was held in September 1956, and in due course, the Minister suggested that the Council should consider the possibility of pumping up to six times the dry weather flow from the area to a site from which the effluent can be discharged into tidal water, and also that the existing Eling Works be used to deal with the remainder of Eling Parish and the Parishes of Netley Marsh and Copythorne. Investigations along these lines are now proceeding.

The provision of a main water supply in unsewered areas and the impact of urbanisation upon a rural environment has brought about most insanitary conditions arising from overflowing cesspits, gross pollution of ditches and streams and other unsatisfactory conditions more especially in the parishes of Netley Marsh and Copythorne and I would again strongly advocate the urgent necessity for the proposed schemes submitted by the Council to the Minister.

The serious pollution of the Bartley Water by the effluent from the overloaded Eling Works during periods of low dilution also gives cause for concern and it is thought the revised scheme referred to should also be regarded as a matter of urgency.

I would also refer to the drainage difficulties at South Weirs, Brockenhurst, and express the hope that the proposal of the Council to sewer the area will receive the favourable consideration of the Minister.

Connections to Sewers:

A total of 306 houses have been connected to the sewers during the year as follows:-

Parish.	No. of houses connected.
Brockenhurst.....	2.
Lyndhurst	8.
Eling	192.
Dibden	102.
East Boldre	2.
TOTAL.	306

Of this total, 44 connections were as a result of formal and informal action under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Pail Closets:

The weekly emptying of pail closets at South Weirs, Brockenhurst, continued.

Financial Assistance - Connection to Sewers:

To facilitate the connection of house drains to Sewers, the Council's Scheme of providing financial assistance by way of a loan to

owners continues. 13 Applications were approved during the year, involving a sum of £1,359.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There has been no change in the fortnightly collection throughout the whole of the area of domestic refuse, and weekly collection of trade refuse, with additional collections from beaches and litter baskets as and when required.

The service is operated with the Council's own staff and plant under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Once again, recruiting and retention of labour has been difficult and the incentive salvage bonus scheme, which amounted to £23.1.0d. per man per annum (approx. 8/10d. per week) would appear not to have the magnetic influence one had hoped for. The shortage of labour and inability to engage casual labour, and absence through sickness and absenteeism, aggravated the difficulties arising from annual holidays during the summer months, and the only way in which the service could be maintained was resort to working long periods of overtime - a not desirable or satisfactory means.

Protective clothing continues to be issued as follows:-

2 pairs of overalls.
1 pair of Wellington Boots.
1 Mackintosh.
1 pair protective gloves.

Vehicles:

No vehicles have been added or replaced, remaining the same as the previous year, the following vehicles being employed:-

Dennis, 10 cubic yard	7.
Shelvoke & Drewry, 16/18 cubic yard	1.
Austin 10 Van	1.

Disposal:

All refuse continued to be disposed of by the Controlled Tipping method on four sites at Marchwood, Stoney Cross, Fawley and Sway. To offset the labour problem, the Council purchased a Bristol "25" Angledozer at the beginning of the year and the unsatisfactory conditions referred to in last year's report have been resolved.

The introduction of this machine has reduced the annual cost of disposal by approximately £500. Based upon the present volume of refuse produced in the Parish of Eling, it is estimated that the site at Marchwood will be exhausted within the next five to six years. A survey of the district suggests a serious problem will eventually present itself in finding suitable alternative sites.

To offset the use of this site for the disposal of refuse from the parishes of Dibden and Fawley, resulting from the loss of the site at Holbury, the Forestry Commission agreed to disused gravel pits at Dibden Purlieu being used for refuse disposal; these will be brought into use in 1957, and it is estimated on present volume that they will have a "life" of three years.

Generally:

At the end of the year, the Council had under consideration extensions and improvements of services and had agreed to provide a weekly collection of house refuse in the parish of Eling in 1957, and the parishes of Dibden, Fawley, Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst in 1958/59.

Operational Statistics:

(1)	Area	94,957 acres.
(2)	Population as at 30th June 1956	48,130.
(3)	Total refuse collected (based upon test weighings)	10,425 tons.
(4)	Weight (cwts) per 1,000 population per day	11.9 cwts.
(5)	Number of premises from which refuse is collected	14,608 premises.
(6)	98 Trade Refuse Agreements	98 premises.
(7)	Total mileage	83,200 miles.
(8)	Petrol consumption	11,040 gallons.

COST STATEMENT.

Particulars.	Collection and Disposal	Percentage of total gross expenditure.
	£	%
<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE:</u>		
(1) Labour	12,486	68.200
(2) Transport	5,376	29.364
(3) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	380	2.076
(4) Other items	66	.360
Total Gross Expenditure ...	18,308	100
Gross Income	1,685	-
Nett Cost	16,623	-
<u>UNIT COSTS:</u>	s. d.	£
(i) Gross cost per ton Labour & transport.....	34. 3¼.	
(ii) Nett cost (all expendi- ture) per ton	31. 10½.	
(iii) Nett cost per 1,000 popn..		345.7.6½.
(iv) Nett cost per 1,000 premises		1,137.18.9.

Salvage and Trade Refuse:

The number of trade refuse agreements in force is 98, and the revenue derived is £403. The following Table shows the Scale of Charges in force:-

Number of Bins.	Approx. cost per bin.	Annual Charge.
1 Bin	9d.	£2. 2. 0d.
2 Bins	8d.	£3.13. 6d.
3 Bins	8d.	£5. 5. 0d.
4 Bins	8d.	£7. 7. 0d.
5 Bins	8d.	£9. 9. 0d.
Over 5 & not more than 10		£10.10.0d.
Over 10 & not more than 15		£12.12.0d.
Over 15 and not more than 20		£15.15.0d.
More than 20 - by special Agreement.		

The weight of materials salvaged and disposed of amounted to 253 tons, as compared with 281 tons the previous year:-

Salvage	Tons	Cwts.	£.	s.	d.
Mixed Paper.	184	7	829.	13.	7.
Clean Paper.	59	12	357.	10.	6.
Rags.	3	2	92.	12.	6.
Scrap Iron.	5	16	23.	5.	0.
Sacking.	-	5	1.	15.	0.
TOTALS.	253	2	1,304.	16.	7.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

The Council's scheme for the periodical cleansing of cesspools serving premises in unsewered areas or situated where for some adequate reason it was not possible to connect the drainage system to the sewer, again operated in a reasonable and practical manner.

Conditions and charges were maintained at the 1955 level until 5th December 1956, when petrol rationing came into force, resulting in a rise in the cost applied by the manufacturers and additional Government Tax. The Contractors, Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Limited, applied for, and were granted, permission to add 1/4d. per pit to the cost of emptying cesspools having a capacity of 1,000 gallons or less, and 2/-d. per pit for cesspools with a capacity in excess of 1,000 gallons; special service charges were increased in proportion.

As in previous years, a number of complaints were received, mainly in connection with disposal of cesspool contents, and failure by the Contractors to carry out the service on the scheduled dates; every complaint was investigated and appropriate action taken where warranted.

The question of the disposal of cesspool contents once more proved to be the most difficult problem, and was only overcome by close co-operation between the Contractors and this Department.

It is regretted that it is not always possible to empty some cesspools according to schedule, and it is always appreciated when tenants or owners take the trouble to write, call or telephone to let the Department know details, so that a full investigation can be made; sometimes the Contractors are at fault owing to the breakdown of their vehicles, inaccessibility of the cesspool owing to wet ground, cesspool top being buried, locked doors and gates, labour and disposal difficulties, but whatever the cause, every effort is made to fulfil the Contract.

Applications for the service at premises constructed during the year and at existing premises without previous service totalled 200 whilst the number of premises where the service was discontinued, all in the Dibden Purlieu area, was 19. The new applications were received from the following parishes:-

Beaulieu	10.
Boldre	22.
Bramshaw	6.
Brockenhurst	6.
Copythorne	22.
Dibden	15.
East Boldre	9.
Eling	3.
Fawley	52.
Marchwood	7.
Minstead	5.
Netley Marsh	18.
Rhinefield	1.
Sway	22.
Exbury	2.

Public sewers under construction in the parish of Fawley are due for completion in 1957, therefore it is anticipated that the service will then be discontinued at an appreciable number of premises.

The nett increase in the number of premises for the year was 181, making a total of 2,891 at the end of the year, as against 2,710 at the end of 1955. The cost of the service from 1st January to 31st December 1956 was £6,637 - an increase of £326 over 1955.

The cleansing of cesspools at Council Housing Estates was again carried out in an efficient manner by the Contractors, at 18/-d. per 1,000 gallon load, increased to 19/4d. per load during the period of petrol rationing.

The cost of this special service from 1st January to 31st December 1956 for 1,352½ loads removed was £1,219 as against £1,188 for 1,292½ loads removed during the same period of 1955. The cost per property in 1956 was £13.1, compared with £12.8 in 1955.

Previous to September 1956, the Council had provided a weekly clearance of nightsoil at South Weirs, Brockenhurst; this was considered to be inadequate, and upon a request from the Brockenhurst Parish Council, a twice weekly service was substituted.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The number of licensed sites remains the same as last year, providing accommodation for 200 caravans. There were also 28 individual caravans licensed. The number of licensed sites and individual caravans does not reflect the total number stationed in the district, of which there are a substantial number. It is not possible under the Public Health Acts to prevent caravans becoming established within the district and with the progressive industrial development taking place in the waterside parishes, coupled with the shortage of houses, the number used for housing accommodation is therefore continually increasing.

It is quite evident that, irrespective of action which can be taken under Planning Law, the problem is increasing, and will continue to do so in the wake of the continuing industrial expansion. The use of caravans by families with children for permanent habitation is no satisfactory substitute for houses and the problem is inseparable, therefore, from the overall housing problem. In these circumstances, and with the inevitable prospect of the problem remaining with us for many years to come, it appears to me, from the Public Health aspect, that a constructive and apposite approach is the only method of dealing with these conditions in the form of controlled sites with adequate sanitary facilities and amenities.

In regard to the shack type of dwellings and converted 'bus bodies established on licensed sites during the War years, action is being taken against them under the Slum Clearance Programme, and six were dealt with and demolished during the year.

Again, there was the usual seasonal influx of caravans and camps in the Forest under permits issued by the Forestry Commission. The caravans and camps are under the surveillance of the Forestry Keepers, and conditions giving rise to public health nuisance are rarely found.

Conditions at licensed sites generally were found to be satisfactory, but it was found necessary to take proceedings before the Magistrates against one site operator for non-compliance with the conditions of the Licence. A fine of £5 and costs were imposed.

SWIMMING POOLS.

As in previous years, the Swimming Pool at the Girl Guide Headquarters, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, was again in use during the summer months.

The Pool is an outdoor static type, of concrete construction having a capacity of approximately 45,000 gallons, and is filled from the Southampton Corporation Water Mains.

An Agreement between the Association and the County Education Authority continued and approximately 873 children (788 in 1955) from Bartley Secondary Modern School used the Pool in May, June and July.

27 Samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination. The standard generally was satisfactory, having regard to the control being dependent upon the "fill and empty" system and hand chlorination. The Staff at Foxlease were again most helpful in carrying out the advice given on water change, chlorination dosage, cleansing and other relevant matters.

There were no other swimming pools in the District open to the Public.

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HOUSING.

At the end of the year the number of applicants on the Council's Housing List was 750, as compared with 693 at the end of 1955. Included in the 750, are 150 applicants living in houses included in the Slum Clearance Programme. A further 179 families were rehoused by the Council during the year.

In this number, 11 families were rehoused from houses dealt with under the Slum Clearance Programme, by way of demolition or Closing Orders, and 11 from caravans.

Also, modern chemotherapy and antibiotics have greatly helped the ease with which tuberculosis cases can be treated at home and the Council have fully co-operated in allocating houses to 4 cases which were recommended where their existing housing conditions were unsatisfactory, to enable domiciliary care to be undertaken and as a means of preventing the spread of this disease.

In addition, to enable the Housing Committee to reach a fair decision on other medical and social grounds, 9 cases were referred to me and recommendations made accordingly.

It is interesting to record the progress the Council has made in solving this social problem of the first public health magnitude. Since 1946, they have built 1,563 houses of various types, and including 775 re-lets during this period, the total number of Council lettings is 2,338. In spite of such progress, there is still a shortage of houses to meet the general and special needs of the district, I think in the main, due to the influence of the progressive and rapid industrial development in the district. The Council are facing this problem with a realistic and energetic approach and have resolved to build 2,000 houses before the end of 1960.

In regard to the clearing of the hutted encampments, very real progress has again been made and a further 53 huts were

made redundant at Stoney Cross and Setley Plain, and the families requiring alternative accommodation rehoused by the Council. This means that the Stoney Cross Camp is now cleared and the huts in course of demolition. Of the original 348 families in encampments, the only families remaining in hutted accommodation are 22 at Setley Plain, and the Council propose to re-house these in 1957.

It will, I think, be agreed that in face of the progressive industrial expansion, the difficulties in raising loans, high rates of interest, and acquiring suitable sites, the Council are to be congratulated upon such gratifying progress.

TABLE I.

Number of houses completed during the year by
the Council and Private Enterprise.

Parish.	Erected by Council.		Erected by Private Enterprise	
	1956	1955	1956	1955.
Dibden	44	58	71	70
Eling	64	48	207	169
Beaulieu	-	-	-	1
Boldre	-	-	8	15
Bramshaw	-	-	-	2
Brockenhurst	-	-	1	6
Copythorne	-	-	14	30
East Boldre.....	-	-	7	3
Exbury	-	-	-	1
Fawley	-	-	48	53
Lyndhurst	-	-	8	11
Marchwood	-	-	1	12
Minstead	-	-	1	1
Netley Marsh	-	-	2	21
Sway	-	-	13	11
Rhinefield	-	-	2	-
TOTALS.	108	106	383	406

TABLE II.

Number of houses built by the Council and Private Enterprise, population and number of applicants on Council's Housing List for 1950-1956.

Year.	Number of applicants on Council's Housing List	Houses erected by		Total	Population of District.
		Council.	Private Enterprise.		
1950	1,050	162	32	194	44,200
1951	1,200	174	38	212	44,900
1952	1,200	231	70	301	45,090
1953	1,085	167	176	343	45,480
1954	911	145	303	448	45,960
1955	693	106	406	512	46,840
1956	750	108	383	491	48,130

TABLE III.

Particulars of Houses owned by the District Council.

Beaulieu	56.
Boldre	60.
Brockenhurst	118.
Copythorne	30.
Dibden	395.
East Boldre	22.
Eling	661.
Fawley	222.
Lyndhurst	77.
Marchwood	45.
Minstead	5.
Netley Marsh	18.
Sway	81.
	<u>1,790.</u>

UNFIT HOUSES:

The Council's Unfit Houses Programme, details of which were outlined in last year's report, received Ministerial approval during the year.

Implementation of this programme, which had already commenced, continued during the year, and detailed information of action taken for dealing with houses coming within the category of being unfit for human habitation is contained in the following Table:-

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED DURING 1956:-

	<u>Number of Houses.</u>	<u>Number of persons displaced</u>
(1) <u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>		
(a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec.11)...	10	22
(b) Closed in pursuance of an under- taking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force....	4	4
(2) <u>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</u>		
(a) Closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	5	11

REPAIRS IN THE YEAR 1956:

	<u>Number of Houses.</u>
(3) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during 1956 as a result of INFORMAL ACTION by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	83
(4) Public Health Acts - action after service of FORMAL NOTICE. Houses in which defects were remedied -	
(a) by Owners	2

NUMBER OF HOUSES DEALT WITH (INCLUDING CLOSING ORDERS) SINCE 1946:

104.

Made up as follows:-

Demolition Orders made	47
Closing Orders made	14
Voluntary Demolitions	20

Undertakings:-

(1) Premises will not be used	16
(2) Works will be executed to render fit..	<u>7</u>
	<u>104</u>

Number of houses demolished (formally and voluntarily)	47
Number remaining to be demolished	20

MISCELLANEOUS:

Number of persons rehoused by the
Council as a result of action under
Housing Acts since 1946 199.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR:

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954:

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair was received during the year. It was found on investigation that the tenant had not in fact received a notice of a repairs increase; the application was therefore refused and the matter dealt with as a straightforward housing complaint.

OVERCROWDING:

During the year four cases of overcrowding were dealt with. In all cases abatement was secured by the re-housing of families in Council houses.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Four premises (all private houses) were treated for flea infestations during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

34 Samples of effluents were taken by the Hampshire Rivers Board from streams into which the following sewage disposal works discharge:-

Bank.	Hatchett.
Bartley (Pundle Green)	Lyndhurst.
Blackfield.	Marchwood.
Boldre.	Netley Marsh.
Brockenhurst.	Norley Wood.
East End.	Stoney Cross (now disused).
Eling.	Sway.

Of the 34 samples taken, 21 samples were found to be satisfactory, 12 unsatisfactory, and 1 most unsatisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

There are 29 Schools in the district under the control or voluntary control of the County Education Authority, a number of private boarding and day schools, and a residential school for backward children (by reason of chronic illness) under the control of the Middlesex Education Authority.

All schools are provided with a supply of main water. The unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation and hand washing facilities at those schools in the district where water-borne sanitation has not been provided again received the constant and special consideration of the Council during the year and further representations were made to the Education Committee and the Hampshire Branch of the Rural District Councils Association. It is pleasing and fitting to be able to record that at the time of writing this Report, the outstanding efforts of the Council, first commenced in 1950, have been rewarded in that the County Education Committee have reviewed their policy with regard to the provision of water-borne sanitation at schools lacking such facilities and have resolved that water-borne sanitation should be provided at all County and Controlled schools in the Administrative Area within the next three years.

The Diocesan Authorities, who are concerned with improvements to Aided schools, were also approached in regard to the Lyndhurst School and, again, it is gratifying to note that extensive improvements are proposed to be carried out in the summer recess.

I look forward to the completion of the environmental improvements envisaged in the Education Committee's three-year programme, a further step forward in the promotion of positive health and well being of the present and future generations. It appears it will then be possible to teach personal hygiene, not merely by precept, but also by example.

Milk supplied to all schools in the district is now pasteurised. This is the only method to make milk safe, and the community free from milk borne disease.

It was not found necessary to close any school by reason of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Regular Inspections of food shops, food vehicles, etc., have been carried out during the year and a total of 575 visits were made. There are 410 food premises in the District as follows:-

Canteens	4.
Butchers shops	27.
Grocers shops	85.
Greengrocers shops	27.
Bakers (bread and cakes)	10.
Confectioners	13.
Dairies	15.
General Stores	54.
Hotels	38.
Cafes	41.
Public Houses	65.
Fish Shops (wet)	9.
Fish and Chip shops	9.
Sugar (wholesale)	1.
Clubs	12.
	<u>410.</u>

Appropriate notices in respect of contraventions of the Act were served.

The following remedial work was completed at the end of the year:

Dirty walls & ceilings cleansed and redecorated	40.
Defective walls repaired	4.
Hot water supplies provided	10.
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	2.
Improved drainage and sanitary accommodation	5.
Additional improved washing facilities provided	11.
Structural improvements, inc. lighting & ventilation	4.
Provision of refrigerated glass showcases	1.
Miscellaneous	15.

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 under the Food & Drugs Act 1955.

The Food Hygiene Regulations became operative on the 1st January 1956, and routine inspections were carried out by your Inspectors until October 1956, when your newly appointed additional

Public Health Inspector commenced duties specifically for the operation of the Regulations and other matters relating to food control. Where premises are found not to comply with the Regulations, advice and instruction is given and where necessary, appropriate Statutory action taken.

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

21 Premises are registered for the manufacture and preparation of sausages, sausage rolls, pork pies, pressed, pickled and cooked meats. 18 premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages and pressing and pickling of meats, one for the preservation of hams, one for the manufacture and preparation of sausages, sausage rolls, pork pies and pressed meats, and one for the preparation of brawn. 33 Inspections were made and no Statutory action was found necessary.

Bakehouses:

41 Inspections were made to bakehouses.

Ice Cream:

100 Inspections were made to premises in the District at which ice cream is manufactured or sold. 5 Applications for registration were approved and at the end of the year there were 147 premises registered for the sale of ice cream, an increase of 5 over last year.

One establishment is registered for manufacture and sale. 115 Samples of ice cream and 17 samples of ice lollies were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following

results:	<u>Ice Cream.</u>	<u>Ice Lollies.</u>
Grade I (very satisfactory).....	115	17
Grade II (satisfactory)	-	-
Grade III (unsatisfactory)	-	-
Grade IV (very unsatisfactory) ..	-	-

The 100% satisfactory results obtained in the past two years has been maintained. The only manufacturer in your District continued to give satisfaction and of the 80 samples taken at various stages of production, all were very satisfactory - Grade I.

Ice Cream and Ice Lolly Samples:

Results of bacteriological examinations - 1949/56.

Year.	Number of Registered Premises.	Number of Samples.	Satisfactory. %	Unsatisfactory. %
1949	53	117	70	30
1950	78	185	87	13
1951	102	136	87	13
1952	108	213	90	10
1953	122	239	98	2
1954	131	183	100	-
1955	142	163	100	-
1956	147	132	100	-

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

The following foods from shops and food vehicles were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

238 lbs. Imported Beef	Fibrosis and Bone Taint.
28 lbs. Pigs Kidneys	Decomposition.
8 tins Corned Beef	Decomposition.
14 tins Cooked Pork Shoulder	Decomposition.
1 tin Lambs tongues	Decomposition.
11 tins (20lbs) Meat Products	Decomposition.
70 lbs. Plaice	Decomposition.
48 tins Fruit	Decomposition.
10 tins Fruit Juice	Decomposition.
5 tins Milk	Decomposition.
1 tin Cream	Decomposition.
4 tins Jam	Decomposition.
8 tins Fruit Pudding	Decomposition.
11 tins Vegetables	Decomposition.
4 tins Fish	Decomposition.
1 tin Soup	Decomposition.
26 tins Coffee	Decomposition.
4 jars Pickles	Decomposition.
17 Bottles Sauce	Decomposition.

All condemned foodstuffs suitable for animal feeding, other than that required to be returned to the wholesaler, were collected and disposed of for that purpose at Public Institutions. Foodstuffs not suitable for animal feeding were burned or buried.

Slaughterhouses:

No slaughtering is carried out in the district, as all slaughtering facilities for the district are provided by the Wessex Slaughterhouse Board (of which the Council is a Constituent member) at three slaughterhouses at Southampton and Funtley.

Food Adulteration:

The Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 are administered by the County Council and details of the number of samples and of commodities taken in the district during the year have been kindly supplied by the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, as follows:-

Article.	Number taken.	
	Genuine.	Unsatisfactory.
Butter and other fats	6	-
Drugs	4	-
Milk - Channel Islands	21	-
Milk	94	5
Sausage, Meat & Fish Products	11	1
Spirits	11	-
Other Foods	16	1
	163	7

The 21 Channel Islands Milk samples proved to contain an average of 4.47% Fat and 9.17% non-Fatty Solids and the 94 milk samples an average of 3.77% Fat and 8.55% non-Fatty Solids.

The unsatisfactory samples were 5 milk and 1 fish cake; in addition, a sample of pork sausages contained 57% of meat which, in the Analyst's opinion, should have contained at least 65%.

The sample of fish cake was certified to contain 16% of fish instead of 35% as required by the Food Standards (Fish Cake) Order 1950; they were at least twice the normal size of fish cakes and were sold at 3d as compared with the usual price of 5d. This was the first report received against this trader and the case was dealt with by way of caution.

Milk Samples:

Five were taken from one consignment and these were certified to contain 7, 8, 3, 4 and 9 per cent respectively of added water. Proceedings were taken and the case was heard at Lympington on the 18th December, 1956. A fine of £20, with £10.10.0. Costs, was imposed.

Section 37 and 38, Shops Act, 1950:

Inspections, relating to the arrangements for health and comfort of shop workers, are made in conjunction with routine inspection carried out under the Food and Drugs Act. It was not found necessary to take any formal action under this Act.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Details of registrations and Licences are set out hereunder:

1. Registration:

- (a) Milk Distributors 27.
(b) Dairy Premises (other than Dairy Farms) 23.

2. Licences granted under:

- (a) The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949.
(i) Dealers 19.
(ii) Supplementary 5.
(iii) Pasteuriser's 1.
(b) The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations.
(i) Dealers 13.
(ii) Supplementary 6.

3. Administration:

Number of inspections to milk distributors
and dairy premises and Pastueriser's Plant ... 106.

4. Sampling:

A total of 169 samples of milk were taken and submitted for biochemical, bacteriological and biological examination, with the following results:-

Designation.	Number of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test.		Guinea Pig Test.			
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Tuberculosis.		Brucella Abortus.	
						Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.
Past.	116	116	-	116	-	-	-	-	-
T.T.	20	14	6	-	-	-	20	-	20
U/G.	33	25	8	-	-	-	33	2	30
TOTALS	169	155	14	116	-	-	53	3	50

"Past" = Pasteurised. "T.T." = Tuberculin Tested. "U/G" = Ungraded.

The producers of unsatisfactory samples were referred to the Milk Production Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The three positive samples for *Brucella abortus* were from a single herd. A calf vaccination scheme was introduced and steps taken for herd vaccination with vaccine 'Sl9', and heat treatment of the milk.

No action was taken under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Tarmacadam Plant - Emission of Dust:

For the second year, no complaint was received against this plant. Although small emissions were observed and rectified, I think it can be said that the dust collecting and suppression plant was satisfactorily maintained.

Smoke Abatement:

165 Smoke observations were made of industrial undertakings. While there have been intermittent heavy smoke emissions of short duration, due to unforeseen mechanical breakdown of plant, there were no grounds for direct complaint against any undertaking and resort to Statutory action was found unnecessary. I think, generally, the industrial undertakings in the district are atmospheric pollution minded, and are, for the most part, using the best practicable means to prevent the emission of smoke.

Petroleum Refinery - Fawley:

The close and friendly liaison with Doctor Mahler continued during the year and it is with pleasure that I am able to record his promotion to Deputy Chief Inspector of the Alkali, etc., Department of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

As previously, routine observations have been made and when found necessary, submitted to Doctor Mahler. A small number of complaints of smell and smoke emissions were received and dealt with accordingly.

Doctor Mahler informs me that the Refinery operations continue to be carried out with full regard being paid to prevention of escape of smell and that normal plant operation cannot be improved in this respect. From my own observations and the information available to me, I concur with Doctor Mahler's opinion.

FACTORIES.

Premises.	Number in Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power.	147	192	8	-
Factories without mechanical power.	27	4	-	-
TOTALS.	174	196	8	-

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars.	Number of Defects.				Defects entailing Prosecution.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness.	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation.	1	1	-	-	-
<u>SANITARY CONVENIENCES</u>					
Insufficient.	4	3	-	2	-
Unsuitable or defective.	25	18	-	2	-
No intervening ventilated space.	5	6	-	1	-
Other Offences.	6	6	-	-	-
TOTALS.	42	35	-	3	-

34 Outworkers were employed in the District during the year, engaged in the manufacture of knitwear, gloves, plastic rain wear, children's clothes, etc.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951:

There were no business undertakings in the District coming within the provisions of the Act.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948/51.

Four cases were brought to the notice of the Department but resort to action under Section 47 was not required and they were dealt with satisfactorily in co-operation with the Welfare Officer for the district.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949 and THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (THRESHING & DISMANTLING OF RICKS) REGULATIONS, 1950.

The above Acts and Regulations are carried out under the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and in carrying out the duties imposed upon the Local Authority, a staff of two - one Rodent Officer and one Operator, are kept fully employed.

Destruction of rats and/or mice on private premises is indirectly free, the cost being borne 50% by the General Rate Fund and 50% by way of Grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Business and agricultural premises are dealt with on a Contract or "ad hoc" service at a rate of 7/- per hour. With the introduction of the Contract Service in the early part of 1954, it has been found that premises under Contract are generally free from either rat or mouse infestation, and many appreciative remarks, particularly from farmers, have been received.

Warfarin has again been the poison of choice, making it possible for those employed to make more inspections and to undertake the agricultural destruction service without employing additional staff.

All Council owned property, including Refuse Disposal Sites, Sewage Disposal Works, etc., have been periodically inspected and kept free from infestation generally.

The Hampshire Workable Area Committee No. 5, under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, held several meetings during the year and again have proved most helpful for the efficient administration of the duties of rodent control.

Details of Work:

Number of yearly contracts	51.
Income from Contracts	£431.18.0.
Number of complaints received	368.
Number of infestations found	752.
Number of infestations dealt with	1,162.

Number of Visits made for Survey Work:

(a) Dwelling houses	835.
(b) Business premises	202.
(c) Agricultural premises	237.
(d) Local Authority premises	14.

Number of Visits made for Disinfestation:

(a) Dwelling houses	2,219.
(b) Business premises	582.
(c) Agricultural premises	624.
(d) Local Authority premises	41.

Number of Bodies picked up:

Rats	951.
Mice	172.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Nature of Inspection.	Number made.
Milk and Dairies	275
Water Supply	446
Cesspool Cleansing	117
Public Conveniences	33
Nuisances	1,211
Infectious Diseases	290
Rooms Disinfected	23
Housing	1,092
Food and Drugs	166
Ice Cream Premises	100
Inspection of Food	15
Factories	208
Refuse Collection and Disposal	290
Verminous Premises	18
Rooms Disinfested	24
National Assistance Act	5
Moveable Dwellings and Camp Sites ...	144
Smoke Abatement	165
Smell and Noise Observations	292
Schools	31
Swimming Pools	9
Rodent Control	4,904
Meetings and Interviews	328
Miscellaneous	428
<u>Samples:</u>	
Water	59
Milk	169
Ice Cream	115
Ice Lollies	17
Swimming Bath Water	27
<u>Specimens:</u>	
In connection with the investigation of infectious diseases	423
TOTALS.	11,424

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK AND IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT.

Notices:

Informal Notices and Follow-up Letters	496
Statutory Notices served	5

(b) Sanitary Work:

Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	18
Verminous premises disinfested	9
Ditches and watercourses cleansed	9
Insanitary accumulations removed	10
Choked drains cleared and cleansed	27
Drains repaired	15
Water closets repaired and replaced	23
Infestations of insect pests eradicated	5
Keeping of animals	6
Defective cesspits	11
Miscellaneous	23

(c) Sanitary Improvements:

Connections to Main Sewers	53
Conversions to water closets	25
New drains laid	28
Cesspit and Septic tank systems installed	2
Sinks provided	15
Properties redrained and connected to sewers	25
Washing facilities provided	6

(d) General Repairs:

Roofs	24
Chimneys	17
Eaves, Gutters and Downpipes	28
Walls	25
Windows and Doors	22
Walls and ceilings repaired and cleansed	21
Staircases	1
Floors repaired or relaid	26
Firegrates and kitchen ranges	2
Yard pavings	2

THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Parish	Estimated Population.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis			Polio-myelitis			Optalmia Neonatorum.	Erysipelas	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Dysentery.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Food Poisoning.	Acute Pneumonia.	Totals
			R	NR	P	NP											
Beaulieu	1,239	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	1	9
Boldre	2,265	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	4	-	-	-	-	68
Bramshaw	653	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4
Brockenhurst	2,466	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	8	-	-	-	-	-	21
Copythorne	2,580	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	1	8
Denny Lodge	611	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	4
Dibden	4,837	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	42	-	-	-	1	8	68
East Boldre	1,047	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	2	9
Eling	16,048	7	16	1	-	-	-	-	-	14	57	7	3	-	1	5	111
Exbury	299	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fawley	5,704	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	20	3	2	-	8	43
Lyndhurst	2,668	35	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	27	1	-	2	1	80
Marchwood	1,795	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Minstead	1,342	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Netley Marsh	2,336	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	23	1	-	-	40
Rhinefield	159	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Sway	2,081	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	41	-	-	1	3	-	112
TOTALS	48,130	61	39	6	-	-	-	-	2	162	213	61	9	7	27	587	

TABLE - Notifiable Cases (other than T.B.) notified during the year.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	61	-
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	-	-
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic) ..	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-
Measles	162	-
Whooping Cough	213	1
Dysentery.....	61	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	-
Food Poisoning	7	-
Pneumonia	27	16
Paratyphoid	-	-
Erysipelas.....	2	-
TOTALS.	542	17

CANCER.

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer was 66 - 32 males and 34 females, of which 11 (15%) - 10 males and 1 female - were cancer of the lung and bronchus. The deaths from this cause in all sites are 18 less than last year and the death rate for the year is 1.51 per 1,000 of the population. For comparison, the numbers of deaths and rates per 1,000 of the population in the District since 1949 are as follows:-

Year.	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 population.
1949	81	1.95
1950	96	2.16
1951	113	2.50
1952	65	1.44
1953	90	1.97
1954	70	1.56
1955	84	1.79
1956	66	1.51

DIPHTHERIA

For the tenth successive year, there were no notifications of this disease, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation:

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation and booster treatment for the year ended 31st December 1956, as compared with 1955:-

Age at date of final treatment:-	Number having full primary dose		Number having secondary treatment	
	1956.	1955.	1956.	1955.
<u>Diphtheria Immunisation alone:</u>				
Under 1.	8	113	-	-
1 to 4.	13	70	17	11
5 to 14.	10	30	1,083	939
TOTAL.	31	213	1,100	950
<u>Combined (Diphtheria & Whooping Cough):</u>				
Under 1.	332	246	-	-
1 to 4.	170	145	12	2
5 to 14.	21	16	82	31
	523	407	94	33
<u>Triple (Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus)</u>				
Under 1.	87	N/A	-	N/A
1 to 4.	19	N/A	1	N/A
5 to 14.	-	N/A	7	N/A
TOTAL.	106	N/A	8	N/A
<u>Whooping Cough alone:</u>				
Under 1.	-	1	-	-
1 to 4.	13	6	-	-
5 to 14.	8	3	-	-
TOTAL.	21	10	-	-

The total number of children under 1 year of age who received a full course of primary immunisation in 1956 was 427 as compared with 360 in 1955, equivalent to 74% and 61% respectively. Most satisfactory progress towards achieving the desired level of 75% of children in this age group being immunised has therefore been made.

It will be seen that since the Combined and Triple Antigen was made available, parents have chosen one of these in preference to Diphtheria alone, and this has, it is thought, been responsible mainly for the increase in children under 1 year of age being immunised. Needless to say, the availability of the multiple Antigen and the progressive increase in the birth rate has thrown more work upon the Department, and will, in the future, increase still further the amount of clerical work necessary to keep pace with the demand.

The Clinics at Schools were continued and 556 children were given booster doses. The high level of booster treatment is being maintained and can be considered most satisfactory. I am, once again, grateful to Doctor Oona M. Walker for her most valuable assistance in giving the treatment and the Head Teachers for their unhesitant co-operation and help, which is a vital contribution to the success of the Clinics.

FOOD POISONING.

7 Cases were notified. All were isolated incidences. One child of eleven months was found bacteriologically to be infected with *Salmonella typhi murium* - a pet dog in the household was also found to be similarly infected.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were no cases notified during the year.

PNEUMONIA

26 Cases were notified (29 in 1955) and there were 16 deaths (9 in 1955) from this cause.

WHOOPIING COUGH

A total of 213 cases were notified, the highest incidence being in the first two quarters, less in the third and still less in the fourth quarter - 43, 40, 17 and 6 cases respectively. There was one death from this cause.

The scheme for combined immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough was commenced on the 9th May 1955, and at the end of the year 523 children had received combined treatment and 21 had received whooping cough immunisation alone. Statistics regarding age groups are included under "Diphtheria". Stocks of the vaccine are kept in the Department and issued to medical practitioners on request.

The following Table gives the number of cases and the attack rate per 1,000 of the population over the past five years:-

Year.	Number of cases notified.	Attack Rate.
1952	193	4.28
1953	180	4.17
1954	108	2.32
1955	104	2.15
1956	213	4.21

MEASLES.

It is a well recognised fact that the incidence of Measles rises in alternate years to fall in the intervening years, and this has again been the pattern during 1956. The number of cases notified (162) while appreciably higher than the complementary year (6), is far below the highest notified in 1945 (non-epidemic year) when there were 883 cases notified.

84% of the cases notified were under 10 years of age and 28% under 5 years of age, 1.8% of all notifications were of children under one year of age.

There were no deaths from this cause.

The following Table gives the number of cases and the attack rate per 1,000 of the population over the past five years:-

Year.	Number of cases notified.	Attack Rate.
1952	190	4.21
1953	1,213	26.67
1954	6	0.13
1955	775	16.50
1956	162	3.30

SCARLET FEVER.

Of the 58 cases notified, 34 were associated with a home for children. An investigation was carried out and several children were found to have nasal and throat infections with Lancefield Group "A" streptocci. Isolation of these children appeared to check the spread of infection.

DYSENTERY.

A total of 61 cases were notified. 32 Cases were associated with a school, all *Shigella sonnei* infections. 23 Cases were notified from a Mental Hospital, caused by a Flexneri infection. The incidence is not as high in the general population as in previous years; this is possibly due to a greater awareness of the disease and consequently earlier notification, thus making it possible to take precautions before there is a big build up of the infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

58 Cases were added to the Register, 45 primary notifications and 13 cases moving into the District as transfers from other areas. Of the 45 primary notifications, 39 were respiratory.

There were 2 deaths - 4 in 1955. There is now no difficulty in obtaining Hospital accommodation. The primary notifications show a slight fall - there being 3 less than in 1955.

The following Table shows the number of cases on the Register at the end of the year:-

	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number on Register as at 31st December, 1956:	272	186	44	45	547
Number on Register as at 31st December, 1955:	238	167	44	40	489

New Cases - Age Groups:

Age Group.	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years.	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years.	-	2	-	3
15 - 24 years.	2	2	-	1
25 - 44 years.	12	10	-	2
45 - 64 years.	7	-	-	-
65 and over.	4	-	-	-
TOTALS.	25	14	-	6

Comparability Table of the number and rate per 1,000 of the Population of new Cases and Deaths from Tuberculosis for the years 1950-56:

Year and Population.	New Cases.		Deaths	New Cases Rate per 1,000 Population.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population.
	Pulm.	Non-pulm.			
1950-44,200	34	13	12	1.1	0.3
1951-44,900	40	7	7	1.0	0.1
1952-45,090	22	2	6	0.5	0.1
1953-45,480	50	10	6	1.3	0.1
1954-45,960	30	6	4	0.78	0.08
1955-46,840	40	8	4	1.2	0.08
1956-48,130	39	6	2	0.85	0.04

B.C.G. Vaccination:

This is carried out by the Chest Physician in children who are known contacts of a case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Children at the age of 13 years in schools in the vicinity of Southampton are offered B.C.G. vaccination. They are Tuberculin Tested and those found to be Tuberculin Negative are vaccinated; the ones found to be Tuberculin Positive are investigated by the Chest Physician.

The reason for selecting schools close to Southampton is that the children on leaving school are more likely to obtain employment in urban rather than rural surroundings.

After Care in Tuberculosis:

The Totton and District T.B. After Care Committee, formed five years ago, continues and again much valuable help was rendered to cases in need.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The population continues to increase, having risen by an estimated 1,290 to 48,130.

The Birth Rate shows a slight rise, being 17.6 as compared with 16.4 in 1955 - higher than the national average by 2.0 per 1,000 of the population.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 15.0 (13 deaths) was lower than 1955 - 18.2 (14 deaths) and well below the national average of 23.8.

The number of deaths was higher - 499 as against 1955 when there were 479. The Death Rate (10.1), however, was again well below the national rate of 11.7 per 1,000 of the resident population.

Of the total deaths, 368 or 73.7% (82% in 1955) occurred in persons aged 65 and over, of whom 246 or 49.3% (49% in 1955) were aged 75 or more. The greatest age at death registered was 98, and within the group 90-95 there were 26, or 5.4% of the total deaths.

The number of deaths in persons aged 65 and over as per 1,000 of the population was 7.3 (8.4 in 1955) as compared with the rate for all deaths of 10.3 (10.1 in 1955). The average age at death, from all causes, was 68.9 years (70.6 in 1955).

The incidence of infectious disease as a whole has again been of a comparatively low level. The small increase in dysentery cases was due to an outbreak in a Mental Hospital.

For the tenth successive year, there were no notifications of diphtheria. The choice by parents of the Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough treatment has, as anticipated in my last Report, resulted in a marked rise in the number of children being immunised under one year of age, and it can now be accepted that the desired level of 75% of children in this age group are now being immunised.

There has been a further decline in deaths from tuberculosis - 2 as compared with 4 in 1955. This is the lowest number of deaths from this disease since 1903, the earliest available records, when the death rate was 3.20 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 0.04 in 1956. There is little doubt that this disease, as the "killing" disease of the past, is being combated.

Further progress has been made in dealing with unfit houses, but there has been a fall in the number of new houses being built - 491 being completed (383 by private enterprise and 108 by the Council) - 21 less than 1955, when the peak was reached.

While progress has again been made in alleviating the housing problem, the progressive industrial development taking place in the district requires a greater acceleration in the building of new houses.

The provision of main Sewerage facilities in the district continues to progress.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD.

Medical Officer of Health.

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